Amendments to the Claims

1. (*Cancelled*)

2. (*Currently Amended*) ~~The method of claim 1,~~ A method for optimization of temporal performance of a network of electronic cells, with a plurality of cells that are taken from a library, having several categories of cells, the cells of a same category all having the same functionality, which method comprises the following steps:

• accurate computation of propagation times of signals which pass through each cell of the network; and

identification of cells which have a computed propagation time value greater than a predetermined reference value,

wherein a predetermined threshold value val_j is allocated to each cell of, $rank_j$, of a same category, and wherein, when a cell of another rank, $rank_i$, identified must be replaced by a cell of a higher rank, $rank_k$, the value of $rank_k$ [[is]] being at least equal to $rank_i + rank_j$, said computed propagation time value for said cell of $rank_i$ [[is]] being greater than the predetermined threshold value val_j of said cell of $rank_j$.

3. (*Currently Amended*) The method of claim 2, wherein, when a cell of $rank_i$ identified must be replaced by a cell of a higher rank, $rank_k$, the value of $rank_k$ is equal to the sum of $rank_i$ and $rank_j$, if said computed propagation time value for said cell of rank i [[is]] being within the predetermined threshold values val_j and val_{j+1} of said cells of consecutive ranks, $rank_j$ and $rank_{j+1}$.

4. (*Currently Amended*) The method of ~~claim 1,~~ claim 2, wherein execution of a replacement step ~~is subject to validation by a user of the said method.~~ occurs for cells which have a computed propagation time value greater than a predetermined reference value.

5. (*Currently Amended*) An integrated circuit comprising a network of cells, the temporal performances of which have been optimized by <u>a method comprising:</u>

<u>accurate computation of propagation times of signals which pass through each cell of the network; and</u>

<u>identification of cells which have a computed propagation time value greater than a predetermined reference value,</u>

<u>wherein a predetermined threshold value val_j is allocated to each cell of, $rank_j$ of a same category, and wherein, when a cell of another rank, $rank_i$, identified must be replaced by a cell of a higher rank, $rank_k$, the value of $rank_k$ being at least equal to $rank_i + rank_j$, said computed propagation time value for said cell of $rank_i$ being greater than the predetermined threshold value val_j of said cell of $rank_j$.</u>

~~computation of propagation times of signals which pass through each cell of the network; and identification of cells which have a computed propagation time value greater than a predetermined reference value.~~

6. (*Currently Amended*) A receiver device for radio signals, comprising an integrated circuit having a network of cells, the temporal performances of which have been optimized <u>a method comprising:</u>

<u>accurate computation of propagation times of signals which pass through each cell of the network; and</u>

<u>identification of cells which have a computed propagation time value greater than a predetermined reference value,</u>

<u>wherein a predetermined threshold value val_j is allocated to each cell of, $rank_j$ of a same category, and wherein, when a cell of another rank, $rank_i$, identified must be replaced by a cell of a higher rank, $rank_k$, the value of $rank_k$ being at least equal to $rank_i + rank_j$, said computed propagation time value for said cell of $rank_i$ being greater than the predetermined threshold value val_j of said cell of $rank_j$,</u> ~~by accurate computation of propagation times of signals which pass through each cell of the network; and identification of cells which have a computed propagation time value greater than a predetermined reference value.~~

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